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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

*RCE
7/27/06*

<p style="text-align: center;">REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL</p> <p>Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).</p>	<i>JUL 31 2006</i>	<i>Application Number</i>	09/967,218
		<i>Filing Date</i>	28 September 2001
		<i>First Named Inventor</i>	John David TUCKER
		<i>Group Art Unit</i>	1711
		<i>Examiner Name</i>	Thao T. Tran
		<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	15,529

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. Previously submitted

i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on 27 June 2006
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

iii. Other _____

b. Enclosed

i. Amendment/Reply

ii. Affidavit(s)/Declarations

iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)

b. Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 19-3550

i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e) 08/01/2006 HGUTEMA1 00000083 09967218

ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:1801

iii. Other any deficiency in the enclosed fee 790.00 0P

b. Check in the amount of \$ 790.00 enclosed

c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Melanie I. Rauch	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	40,924
Signature		Date	27 July 2006

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Comm. for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)	Melanie I. Rauch
Signature	
Date	27 July 2006

SEND FEES and completed forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450



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